

Kirby Eades Gale Baker Box 3432 Stn. D Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1P 6N9

Fax (613) 237-0045 Tel (613) 237-6900 E-mail: email@kirbyeades.com



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FEB 2 6 2003

**GROUP 3600** 

To:	Examiner Aileen Felton	From:	Edwin Gale
Firm:	U.S.P.T.O.	Re:	U.S. Patent Application No. 09/895,334
Fax:	1-703-305-7687	Art Unit	3641
Date:	February 26, 2003	Our File:	45888-1
Pages:	5	Transmitter:	Sandra Touchette

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From-KIRBY EADES GALE BAKER

Attorney Docket No. 45888-1

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: Réjean AUBÉ

Serial No.

: 09/895,334

Filed

: July 2, 2001

Title

: DELAY COMPOSITIONS AND DETONATION DELAY

DEVICES UTILIZING SAME

Art Unit

: 3641

Examiner

: Aileen FELTON

KIRBY EADES GALE BAKER, Box 3432, Stn. D,

Ottawa, Ontario. Canada K1P 6N9

The Hon. Commissioner of Patents And Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231 U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

This is in reply to the Examiner's Action of November 26, 2002.

No amendments are being made at this time.

#### REMARKS

### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-12 (presumably claims 1-11, as claim 12 has been withdrawn) as unpatentable over Dufrane et al. (US 5031538), apparently in view of Taylor et al. (presumably US 3291664 as the Examiner listed two Taylor et al. references).

The Examiner stated:

Dufrane et al. discloses a delay element that comprises barium sulfate, silicon, and red lead. The binder of sodium carboxymethyl cellulose is not disclosed.

Taylor et al. discloses the use of up to 5% sodium carboxymethyl cellulose with a delay composition.